

1 What I claim is new is:

2 1. An emergency braking system which is activated when a high velocity water jet
3 of a PWC is cut-off, said braking system comprising: a planar braking member pivotally
4 mounted on a rear portion of said water craft, said braking member being movable from
5 an elevated non-operative position to a lowered submerged operative position for
6 generating braking forces when said water jet is cut off; a means for elevating said
7 member to said elevated non-operative position during a normal operation of said water
8 craft and a means for lowering said braking member to said lowered operative position.

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10 2 . The emergency braking system recited in claim 1 wherein said means for
11 elevating said braking member to said elevated non-operative position during said normal
12 operation of said water craft is an automatic means.

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14 3. The braking system recited in claim 1 wherein said means for lowering said
15 braking member to said lowered operative position after said cut-off of said high velocity
16 water jet is an automatic means.

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18 4. The braking system recited in claim 3 wherein said automatic means for elevating
19 said braking member to said non-operative position is a baffle in covering relationship with
20 an outlet of said nozzle at said lowered operative position, said baffle intercepting said
21 water jet.

1 5. The braking system recited in claim 4 wherein said automatic means for
2 lowering said pivotally mounted braking member to said lowered submerged operative
3 position when said water jet is cut off is gravity.

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5 6. The braking system recited in claim 1 wherein said means for elevating said
6 planar braking member is a manually operated push-pull cable.

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8 7. In a PWC which is propelled and steered by an impulse of a high velocity water
9 jet discharged through a nozzle at the rear of the water craft, the improvement comprising:
10 a rudder for steering said PWC, said rudder mounted for rotation about a horizontal axis
11 on a rear portion of said water craft from an elevated non-operative position to a lowered
12 submerged operative position when said high velocity water jet of said water craft is cut-off;
13 a means for said mounting of said rudder; a planar braking member mounted on said
14 rudder for generating braking forces at said rudder's lowered operative position when said
15 water jet is cut off; a means for raising said rudder to said elevated non-operative position;
16 and a means for lowering said rudder to said lowered submerged operative position.

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18 8. The improvement recited in claim 7 wherein said means for mounting said rudder
19 is a yoke shaped arrangement of a pair of forward extending arms and a pair of shoulder
20 bolts for attaching said arms to opposite side portions of said nozzle.

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22 9. The improvement recited in claim 7 wherein said braking member comprises a

1 transverse triangular fin on a lower rear corner of said rudder for providing said braking
2 forces when said rudder is in said lowered operative position.

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4 10. In combination with a rudder of a PWC which is operative during a discharge
5 of a high velocity water jet at a rear of said PWC, said rudder being movable between two
6 positions, an elevated non-operative position during said discharge of said water jet and
7 a lowered submerged operative position when said water jet is cut off; a planar braking
8 member extending laterally outward from a lower portion of said rudder for generating
9 braking forces when said water jet is cut off, said planar braking member being operative
10 when said rudder is operative and being non-operative when said rudder is non-operative.

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12 11. The combination recited in claim 10 wherein said planar braking member is a
13 triangular shaped member.